

Article  
10-12-13

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 1. A method for data transfer between a host system (210), a database (214, 215), and a  
2 terminal server (225, 226), the terminal server (225, 226) having a location, the method  
3 comprising the steps of:  
4 receiving at a host system (210), terminal server identification from a terminal server (225,  
5 226);  
6 querying a database (214, 215) to obtain service data associated with the location based on  
7 the terminal server identification; and  
8 automatically sending the location specific service data from the host system (210) to the  
9 terminal server (225, 226).
- 1 2. The method of claim 1 wherein the database (214, 215) includes a first record that  
2 associates the terminal server identification with the location, and the step of querying the  
3 database (214, 215) includes a step of determining the location based on the terminal server  
4 identification data from the first record.
- 1 3. The method of claim 2 wherein the database (214, 215) further includes a record  
2 that associates the location with service data that is specific to the location, and the step of  
3 querying the database (214, 215) further comprises the step of determining the location  
4 specific service data based on the determined location.
- 1 4. The method of claim 1 further comprising the steps of:  
2 establishing a data connection between the terminal server (225, 226) and a client  
3 computer;  
4 receiving the location specific service data at the terminal server (225, 226); and  
5 forwarding the location specific service data from the terminal server (225, 226) to the  
6 client computer.
- 1 5. The method of claim 4 wherein the step of establishing a data connection is carried  
2 out prior to the step of receiving the terminal server identification.
- 1 6. The method of claim 4 wherein the step of establishing a data connection further

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3 comprises the step of receiving a dial-up modem connection from a client computer.

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2 7. The method of claim 1 wherein the terminal server identification comprises a  
3 network address associated with the terminal server (225, 226).

1 8. The method of claim 7 wherein the step of receiving the terminal server  
2 identification further comprises the step of receiving a data packet from the terminal server (225,  
3 226), the data packet including the terminal server (225, 226) network address.

1 9. The method of claim 8 wherein the data packet includes request data received at  
2 the terminal server (225, 226) from the client computer, the request data identifying an  
3 information service.

1 10. The method of claim 9 wherein the step of querying the database (214, 215)  
2 further comprises querying based on the terminal server identification and the request data; and  
3 the location specific service data obtained by the query of the database (214, 215) is associated  
4 with both the terminal server identification data and with the service identified by the request  
5 data.

1 11. A host system (210) comprising:  
2 a database (214, 215) including a record associating a terminal server identification  
3 with service data specific to a location;  
4 an interface to exchange data with a terminal server (225, 226) situated at a location via  
5 a communications link; and  
6 a processor configured to receive the terminal server identification from the data  
7 interface, to query the database (214, 215) for location specific service data associated with the  
8 terminal server identification, and to send the location specific service data obtained by the  
9 query to the datainterface for transmission to the terminal server (225, 226).

1 12. The host system (210) of claim 11 wherein:  
2 the terminal server identification comprises a network address associated with the  
3 terminal server (225, 226); and

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4 the interface includes packet processing circuitry to receive a data packet from the  
5 terminal server (225, 226) and extract the terminal server identification from a header region of  
6 the data packet.

1 13. The host system (210) of claim 12 wherein the network address comprises an  
2 internet protocol address.

1 14. The host system (210) of claim 11 wherein the database (214, 215) includes a  
2 disk storage medium comprising a plurality of records associating terminal server  
3 identifications with locations and a plurality of records associating locations with service data.

1 15. The server of claim 14 further comprising a software storage media coupled to the  
2 processor, the media storing instructions to configure the processor to query the database (214,  
3 215), instructions to retrieve locations associated with terminal server identifications and  
4 instructions to query the database (214, 215) to retrieve service data associated with locations.

1 16. A computer program residing on a computer-readable medium, comprising  
2 instructions for causing a computer to:  
3 receive terminal server identification from a terminal server (225, 226);  
4 query a database (214, 215) to obtain location specific service data associated with the  
5 terminal server identification; and  
6 send the location specific service data to the terminal server (225, 226).

1 17. The program apparatus of claim 16 wherein the instructions to query the database  
2 (214, 215) comprise instructions to query the database (214, 215) to determine a location based  
3 on the received terminal server identification.  
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1 18. The program apparatus of claim 16 wherein the terminal server identification  
2 comprises a network address associated with the terminal server (225, 226).

1 19. The program apparatus of claim 16 wherein the instructions to receive the  
2 terminal server identification comprises instructions to receive a data packet from the terminal  
3 server (225, 226), the data packet including the terminal server network address.

1 20. The program apparatus of claim 19 wherein the data packet further comprises  
2 request data received at the terminal server (225, 226) from a client computer, the request data  
3 identifying a service.

1 21. The program apparatus of claim 20 wherein:  
2 the instructions to query the database (214, 215) comprise instructions to query the  
3 database (214, 215) based on the terminal server identification and the request data; and the  
4 location specific service data obtained by the query is associated with both the terminal server  
5 identification and with the service identified by the request data.

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